

**METHODS AND STRUCTURE FOR SOFTWARE RELEASE MANAGEMENT****Abstract**

A software release management system and associated methods for improving robustness and reliability of software release processes. Systems and methods hereof help a user

5 identify differences between a current released version of a software product and a local version subset of the software product. For example, in one aspect hereof, a developer may use systems and methods hereof to identify new, deleted or modified files or directories of a software product stored locally in his/her own build storage area relative to the files and directories that comprise the present released version residing in a release storage area. In

10 one aspect, a scan element scans the developer's build storage area to identify files and directories used by the developer. In another aspect, a verification element may compare the files and directories of the build storage area with those of the release storage area to identify differences therebetween.